GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3315
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
REOPENING OF SNOWFALL AND AVALANCHE STUDY INSTITUTE IN HIMACHAL PRADESH
MAHESHWAR SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Snowfall and Avalanche Study Institute (SASI) Headquarter was shifted from Bahang Village, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh to Chandigarh and Ramgarh in Haryana owing to flood;

(b) if so, whether the people representative of Himachal Pradesh had demanded to reopen the Snowfall and Avalanche Study Institute (SASI) Headquarter in Bahang, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the certain offices of the said institute were temporarily shifted to Chandigarh and Ramgarh in Haryana owing to flood;

(e) if so, the progress made so far in regard to re-opening of said institute in the aforesaid place;

(f) the reasons for not shifting these offices back in Bahang, Himachal Pradesh as on date; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir. A segment of Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment Headquarter (SASE) was shifted to Chandigarh/Ramgarh.

(b) Yes, Sir. A representation from the Hon`ble MP was received by the Ministry.

(c) The facts have been explained to the Hon`ble MP. All the buildings of SASE, Manali damaged due to flash floods on 04-05 September, 1995 have been rehabilitated and the Establishment is fully functional at the old location at Manali as before.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The SASE is carrying out the activities from Manali as well as from ChandigarhManali is taking care of all the operational snow related activities whereas the Research and Development Centre, SASE, Chandigarh is carrying out research on instrumentation, modelling, design of control structures and liaison with academic institutions.

(f) & (g): The officers and staff who are required at Manali have already been positioned at Manali to take care of all the operational activities.